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against its annexation to the United States as in favor of it.

We have no objections to the United States building, owning and controlling the Nicaragua canal, *provided* the obligations taken upon us by the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty be faithfully observed until they be honorably abrogated, and *provided* the rights of other nations in such a great international water way be carefully secured. But our own interests in the prospective canal would be just as well secured if it were built by a combination of nations, or citizens of different nations, then neutralized and put under international control.

The platform is formally right in asserting that the "United States should exercise all the influence it can properly exert to bring these (Armenian) atrocities to an end." But what does it mean by "all the influence it can properly exert"? Does it mean anything more than has been done? Does it mean the sending of a fleet of war-ships? Does it mean a great moral influence, without threat of war, such as that which our country has often exercised in the interests of justice and liberty? Verily no man knoweth, except the straddler who never *knows* anything!

The reassertion of "the Monroe doctrine in its full extent," whatever that may mean, can have no other possible reference than to England, and is a covert and unworthy insinuation that she is encroaching upon Venezuela, an assertion which the framers of the platform did not dare openly to make, for it was to find out whether or not this is true that the Venezuela Commission was appointed, the distinguished members of which have already spent six months trying to find out the true state of the case and have not yet reported.

The declarations about Cuba are about as indefinite as the resolutions passed by Congress on the same subject. They commit nobody to anything except "sympathy," which is felt by all Americans regardless of party.

On the subject of the navy the platform is definite, and definitely wrong. The policy outlined in this plank is un-American and untrue to American history. It is as far as possible from being true that "the peace and security of the republic and the maintenance of its rightful influence among the nations of the earth demand a naval power commensurate with its position and responsibility." Such a naval power would mean a war fleet of 500 vessels, that is, larger than that possessed by Great Britain, the great naval power. Do sensible men in this country, of any party, really believe that we need such a fleet? The assertion made in the platform is an open and inexcusable abandonment of the principles and practices which have made our country strong, and safe and influential. If such a policy is ever carried out, it will mean the ultimate enthronement in free America of the tyranny of European militarism. After the war fleet and "a complete system of harbor and sea-coast defences," at a cost

of countless millions, will come an increasing clamor for an army "commensurate with our position and responsibility."

It is not to be wondered at that a platform containing such a plank as this about the navy and coast defences should have totally ignored the great subject of international arbitration now so conspicuously before the minds of the English-speaking people. Negotiations are actually in progress for the establishment by treaty of a permanent Anglo-American tribunal of arbitration. No greater subject, none fuller of promise for the future of civilization, none more in harmony with the genius of American institutions, was ever before our people, and yet this great convention, claiming to represent, and actually representing in many ways, the highest interests of the nation and the best progress of humanity, had not a word to say in its behalf! It had an opportunity to say something, for the subject was laid before the makers of the platform. What motive shall we assign for this regrettable silence?

The section of the platform referring to industrial arbitration in matters of interstate commerce is clear and admirable, and is, we do not hesitate to say, a clear indication of what the better element of the party would have said on the subject of international arbitration, if it had had the same conscientious courage on the subject that it had on the matter of the currency.

MR. PRATT'S VISIT.

The visit to this country of Mr. Hodgson Pratt, the distinguished chairman of the International Arbitration and Peace Association of London, has been greatly appreciated by the American friends of peace. After the Mohonk Conference, which he came on purpose to attend and at which his presence and speaking were greatly enjoyed, he spent several days at Washington, where he had a number of interviews with Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, and one with President Cleveland. He was received most cordially by the President and the Secretary of State, and the subject of arbitration was freely discussed during the interviews. The exact position of the negotiations for a treaty between this country and Great Britain were not made known to Mr. Pratt as they are not yet sufficiently advanced to be given out to the public.

After leaving Washington, Mr. Pratt made brief stops in Philadelphia and New York, to see some of the leading friends of the arbitration movement in these cities, speaking at each in behalf of the great cause to which he has given so many faithful and laborious years. He is greatly interested in the creation of an Anglo-American Committee which shall, in times of disturbance and misunderstanding, act as a medium of exact information to the public on the matters occasioning the excitement.

This subject he urged upon the attention of his American friends, to most of whom it was new.

At Boston on the 26th of June Mr. Pratt spoke at a meeting called jointly by the Twentieth Century Club and the American Peace Society. On account of the lateness of the season the meeting was not large, but it was attended by a number of representative Boston men and was an extremely interesting and important one. After Mr. Pratt had spoken, urging earnestly the closest and most sympathetic union between the two great English-speaking nations, more than an hour was spent in conference, during which much valuable information was elicited as to the progress of the movement in Europe, and the general prospects of the cause, about which he is so thoroughly and accurately informed.

Mr. Pratt sailed from Boston for Liverpool on the *Cythia* on the 4th of July, greatly pleased with his reception in America and bearing with him the confidence and sincere admiration of all who came to know him. We have no doubt that his visit to this country will be productive of much good on both sides of the water. The more the citizens of the two great countries meet and learn to know each other the sooner will all misunderstandings between them disappear and the web of good feeling be woven to its completion.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We give in this number a full report of the addresses made at the annual meeting of the American Peace Society, which had to be omitted from the June issue, in order to give room for the Washington Conference report. We shall publish no paper in August. Our September issue will be a double number and we hope then to give our readers all the important addresses made at the Mohonk Conference on the subject of a permanent international tribunal of arbitration.

The Seventh International Peace Congress will meet, as heretofore announced in our columns, at Buda-Pesth, Austria, on the 15th of September and continue in session four days. It is to be followed by the annual Conference of the Interparliamentary Peace Union which will meet in the same city on the 19th of September and continue in session probably three days. The American Peace Society will be glad to be informed if any persons interested in the cause are likely to be in Europe at that time, that they may be made delegates to the Congress. The best way to reach Buda-Pesth is to go by steamer from New York to Hamburg, and then take the train by way of Berlin or Frankfort-on-the-Main to Vienna. From Vienna one may go by train, or by boat down the Danube to Buda-Pesth.

The Peace Congress has never before met so far east in Europe. It ought to be made as influential as possible,

in the heart of the Austrian Empire, and we hope that a number of delegates from this country may be able to be present. The peace movement is rapidly making its way throughout all parts of Europe, and the opportunity was never so favorable as now to secure a respectful hearing for its principles and purposes from those who have heretofore given it no attention.

At the recent General Conference of the Protestant Pastors of France, held at Paris, the following action was taken unanimously in regard to arbitration and peace:

1. The Conference recommends to all its members and through them to all the Christians of our churches, to labor for the triumph of the principle of international arbitration in the settlement of difficulties between peoples, and to support with their sympathies the societies whose aim is to secure the substitution of arbitration for war.

2. All the churches are invited to observe, as far as possible, once a year, near Christmas time, a Peace Sunday, that they may, in accord with the larger number of Christians who already observe such a day, make the holy cause of peace the subject of special prayer and preaching.

The Arbitration Alliance of the British Churches held its annual meeting at Sion College, London, on the 28th of May. The meeting was presided over by Lord Kinnaird.

The friends of peace in Italy recently presented to the national parliament a petition against the continuance of the war in Africa, signed by one hundred and twenty thousand influential persons. The Lombard Peace Union has sent a special circular to the leading signers of the petition asking them to organize committees in their various localities with the view of overcoming the prejudices and selfishness which still render war possible, not only in Africa but also in Europe.

The London Peace Society held its Eightieth Annual Meeting on the 19th of May in Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street. The chair was occupied by Sir Joseph Pease, President of the Society, who spoke of the gloomy outlook occasioned by the present state of Europe, and also of the signs of progress of the arbitration movement during the year, especially between Great Britain and the United States. Able addresses were delivered by the Bishop of Hereford (Dr. Percival), Rev. John C. Grant, Mr. Robert Cameron, M. P., Mr. A. E. Fletcher and Mr. Edward Blake, M. P.

The Society has during the year paid off the debt of £800 with which it began its year's work. Its receipts for the year were about £3600, more than £2000 of which was from donations, and £850 from legacies.

The Society has been very active in providing lectures in various parts of the United Kingdom, and has published and circulated a very large amount of peace litera-